Appendix B

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See *NetScape*.

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Motif
The graphical user interface (GUI) endorsed by the Open Software Foundation. It has become the standard graphical interface for UNIX. Motif, Windows and Mac are the three major GUIs. See *OSF*.

Motion JPEG
See *MPEG*.

motion path
In computer graphics, the path to be followed by an animated object.

motion video
Refers to moving video images, but does not imply a frame rate. Full-motion video refers to fluid, TV-like images displayed at a rate of 24 to 30 frames per second.

Motorola
(Motorola, Inc., Schaumburg, IL) A leading manufacturer of semiconductor devices founded in Chicago in 1928 by Paul V. Galvin as the Galvin Manufacturing Corporation. Its first product allowed radios to operate from household current instead of batteries. In the 1930s, the company commercialized car radios under the Motorola brand suggesting "sound in motion," and in 1947, changed the company name.
By the 1960s, it was a leader in communications and consumer electronics and had built its first semiconductor facility. It eventually moved from the consumer side, selling its color TV business in the mid-1970s.
Although Motorola is known to computers for its 68000 microprocessor family, and now the PowerPC line, it is also involved in radio and data communications systems and automotive and industrial products, among others.

mount
To cause a file on a remote workstation or server to be available for access locally. For example, in NFS (Network File System), a server maintains a list of its directories that are available to clients. When a client mounts a directory on the server, that directory and its subdirectories become part of the client's directory hierarchy. See *automounting*.

mouse

A popular pointing device that is used to move the cursor on screen. Mouse movement is relative. The screen cursor moves from its existing location. The mouse could be moved across your arm, and the screen cursor would move as well. The mouse on a tablet, which is correctly called the *tablet cursor* is not relative. The tablet cursor makes contact with the tablet with absolute reference. Placing it on the upper left part of the tablet moves the screen cursor to that same location on screen. See *mechanical mouse, optical mouse, serial mouse, bus mouse, mickey, trackball, pointing stick* and *touchpad*.

mouse pad
A fabric-covered rubber pad roughly 9" square that provides a smooth surface for rolling a mouse.

mouse port
A socket in the computer into which a mouse is plugged.

Serial DB9 Bus Connector

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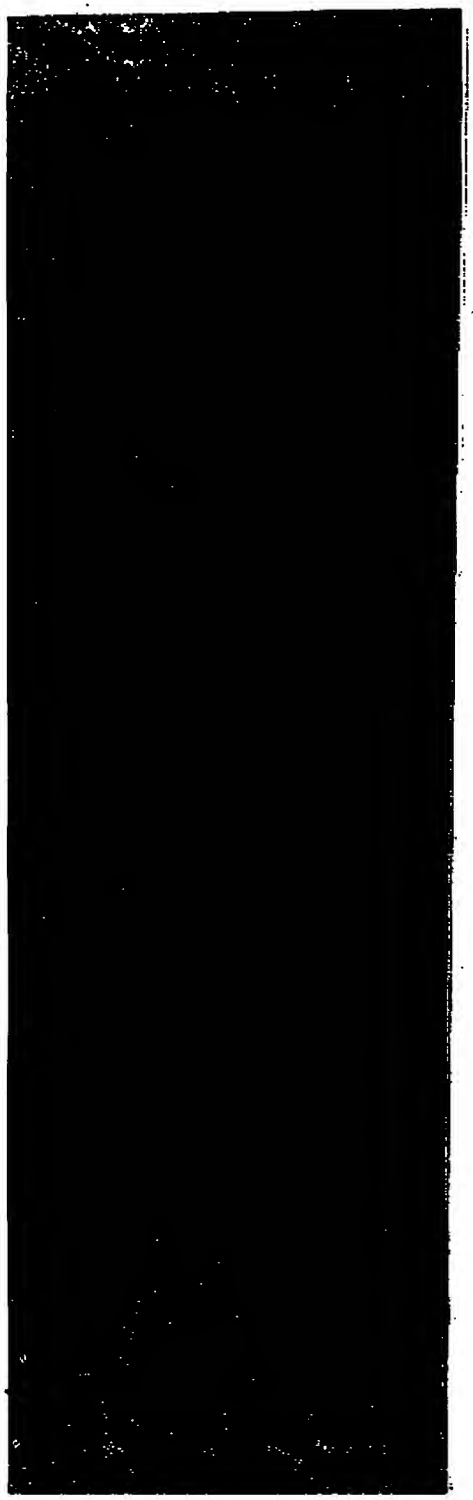

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ove across the top of your desk to
ven. Don't lift the mouse up in the
of your hand. It doesn't work if you
be resting the desk with the little
ontact with the desk. Hold it so the
ome people hold their mouse back-
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the pointer moves across the screen
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ually see a little ball that barely sticks
the mouse detect how that ball rolls
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mouse pad

A **mousepad** is a little pad on which you can roll your mouse around. There is nothing special about a mousepad—your mouse will work just fine on the plain old desk or on a piece of cardboard (unless you have an *optical mouse* which needs a mousepad with a reflecting grid built into it. But you would know if you did!). The advantage of the mousepad is that the surface is usually designed to give a better grip on the mouse ball than you can get on your desk.

mouse port

The **mouse port** is a special port (socket, or connection) for hooking up a mouse to your computer.

Among IBM-compatible personal computers, a special mouse port first appeared in 1987 with IBM's PS/2 line. This is a small round connector with six metal pins, plus an additional plastic piece to ensure that you plug it in right-side up. The PS/2 mouse port hasn't become universal, but some other manufacturers do include it on their IBM-compatible machines, especially on *laptop* and *notebook* PCs. Actually, the PS/2 port can be used for some other external devices such as hand *scanners*. And by the way, don't be worried if your PC doesn't have a mouse port: you can attach a mouse to the standard *serial port* on any IBM-compatible machine.

On the Mac, the mouse plugs into an *ADB port*, or Apple Desktop Bus port. ADB ports are on the back of the computer and also on built-in most keyboards. You can plug the mouse into any ADB port you find.

ms

The abbreviation **ms** stands for millisecond, which is one-thousandth of a second. Disk *access time*, the time it takes the computer to get to the disk and get the information it's looking for, is measured in milliseconds. Twenty milliseconds is considered pretty fast.

MS-DOS

MS-DOS (pronounced "em ess doss") stands for Microsoft disk operating system, the most widely-used *operating system* for *IBM PC* and *compatible* computers. (An *operating system* is the master control software program that runs the computer itself.) This means that MS-DOS is the most widely

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mouse pad ==>

mouse mat

<hardware> (U.S.: "mouse pad") A small sheet with a special surface for a rolling ball mouse to move on. Most mouse mats are sheets of rubber or foam about 20cm by 25cm and about 5mm thick with one side covered with cloth or sometimes hard plastic. Deluxe versions come combined with a wrist rest.

It is rare to find a mouse mat which does not carry some form of advertisement for some company or other. They are such a common free gift that few people actually have to buy one.

Mats are supposed to provide better traction and a clean, lint-free surface over which to move but it debatable whether they are useful at all, or whether any appropriate surface (preferably hard, even, flat, and clean) is as good. Howevever, some mice which use optical (e.g. Sun) or radio-frequency sensors (e.g. ?) to detect motion (instead of using a rolling ball) will only work on specially designed mouse mats. Critics may consider this to be part of the connector conspiracy, though the designers would claim greater reliability due to the absence of moving parts.

(1997-04-14)

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